

# Press-Herald

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## The Feds and Control

Many examples of the practice of exercising federal control over local projects for which federal funds have been contributed have been cited here over the years.

For the most part, we have been obliged to make the point by detailing what has happened in other communities.

Today, we can point glumly to the insidious hand of the federal government in the affairs of Torrance.

Because the City Council turned to the federal government in an effort to develop the area west of Torrance Municipal Airport, residents of a North Torrance area are up in arms at the moment.

Remote as it may seem, the two are directly related. To qualify for federal funds, the city must mount a house-to-house inspection program throughout the city, checking homes for possible building code violations. The North Torrance area was first on the list.

While the program which was scheduled to begin on Feb. 1 has been delayed, there is no indication that city officials are considering any retreat from the project.

Why a North Torrance home several miles from the redevelopment project has to be inspected has not been explained satisfactorily to residents in that area. It's just that the federal government says so.

In another local case, the workings of the bureaucrats in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare are being revealed in their fullest array.

Efforts of the Torrance Unified School District to get title to land which will contain facilities of the new multidistrict skills center have been dragged through such a maze of technicalities and on-again, off-again decisions that most of us have lost the thread of the situation.

The cases are endless: what the federal government supports, it controls. There still are no exceptions.

## Long Lines Just Ahead

The annual deadline for auto owners looms ever nearer as Feb. 6, the last day to pay license and registration fees without penalty, is rushing up on all of us. The Department of Motor Vehicles who handles such things has reminded us that it's later than we think.

Many temporary license renewal stations are operating over the state; but the department points out that those who do not have a 1967 fee statement will have to visit a regular DMV office. In Torrance that's a small problem for the DMV office at 1907 Border Ave. is ready to handle all such matters.

Manager Charles W. Creighton and his staff at the Torrance DMV office suggest that you don't wait around until the last day.

Many of you will, however, and those long, long lines may make a nice picture for the Feb. 8 edition of the Press-Herald. There must be an easier way to get your picture in the paper.

## Opinions of Others

The only question remaining in our minds is: will there be a "war on poverty" to support the taxpayers after they support the rest of the federal government's poverty fiascos?—*Crestell (Ore.) Chronicle*.

Politicians, from the President down, profess to be concerned about inflation. Moreover, all of them are busy seeking a villain, something to blame for the evils of inflation. Perhaps the dictionary would be helpful. Webster's Unabridged, 1956, says: "Inflation: Disproportionate and relatively sharp and sudden increase in the quantity of money, or credit, or both, relative to the amount of exchange business. Such increase . . . may come in times of financial difficulty by government issues of paper money without adequate metallic reserve and without provisions for conversion into standard metallic money on demand. In accordance with the law of the quantity theory of money, inflation always produces a rise in the price level."—*Lullow (Ky.) News Enterprise*.

Officials of the U. S. Department of Agriculture have charged that it was (or at least should be) illegal for Armour and Company to offer a 50-cent refund on each package purchased of a new line of bacon the company introduced several years ago. . . . We know of no law passed by Congress authorizing the Department of Agriculture to tell a private industry how it can or cannot advertise its products. And we suspect if the "Aggie" boys get away with it in this case, the Justice Department, Federal Trade Commission, and a host of other federal agencies will pick up clubs for a big "crackdown" on advertising by all private industries. We agree with Mr. Herbert Brownell (former U. S. Attorney General), counsel for Armour and Company in this case: "The very future of creative and responsible American advertising and promotion may well be at stake. The real issue is . . . freedom in the marketplace under the existing laws—or manacles in the marketplace by administrative ukase."—*Wytheville (Va.) Enterprise*.

"Health is wealth." Benjamin Franklin got credit for saying it a long time ago. But this bit of wisdom was nothing new. After all, one doesn't need to be a sage to know that good health is essential to happy, productive life. It's man's most priceless possession.—*Warrensburg (Mo.) Star-Journal*.

## Y'Think the Hurd Portrait Was Bad?



## AFFAIRS OF STATE

# Backers of Four-Quarter School Year Stand Firm

By HENRY C. MacARTHUR  
Capital News Service

SACRAMENTO — The wolf-cry of educators that the conversion to the four-quarter year in the field of higher education would be jeopardized if funds in the University of California budget were curtailed got short shrift from the state legislature as it considered resolutions assuring the program.

The resolutions were introduced by Senator George Miller, D-Contra Costa, and Assemblyman Robert W. Crown, D-Alameda, respectively chairmen of senate finance and assembly ways and means.

The resolutions contained a statement of the intention of the legislature to provide the funds necessary for the conversion program which will amount to \$7,240,464 in the 1967-68 budget of the university at Berkeley and Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles State College, where the quarter program is being put into effect.

The legislature on recommendation of the Coordinating Council for Higher Education approved conversion some time ago. To date, some \$4.5 million has been spent in effectuating the quarter system.

It is estimated that through adoption of the program, which envisions full use of university and college buildings and facilities, taxpayers of the state will avoid having to spend about \$208 million during the next 10 years on capital outlay.

"Planning for conversion represents a tremendous investment in state funds and administration planning," said Senator Miller. "It would be grossly irresponsible to waste this investment at the last minute by not funding the conversion procedure."

The desire to believe may weaken the desire to know.—Dr. William B. Shockley, Stanford physicist.

The dark spot upon our nation is the cynicism in the attitude of youth.—Gary V. Awad, Claremont Men's College.

Aren't we Americans the righteous ones, going along with UN economic sanctions against little Rhodesia to please our British "allies" who are sending more shipping into North Viet Nam than any other nation!—Mrs. R. B. Ritz, Burbank.

I'm a born winner.—Walter Harold Treskunoff, saying he would be a candidate for San Francisco mayor after a string of unsuccessful campaigns.

The senator also pointed out the situation now consists of "special circumstances requiring a special assurance by the legislature that its past support of full-year operation of our campuses continues."

With the passage of the resolutions, the university board of regents and state college board of trustees will

## Sacramento

have no excuse to scuttle the program, which never has found much favor with educators anyhow, requiring as it does, that a lot more educators will have to work the year round.

"We have every intention," said Miller, "of taking advantage of the potential \$208 million savings represented by year-round operation of the campuses."

When the conversion pro-

## Quote

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## Morning Report:

It's not for me to say that Peter Hurd's painting of President Johnson is great art, but I think he should have liked it. The portrait makes LBJ look sincere, honest, and prosperous — the very picture of a man who has just won the insurance company's top salesman award for the 25th consecutive year.

And what's wrong with that? I think the Democratic National Committee should pay the artist and use his work on billboards from Coast to Coast in the '68 election.

But if the President wants something more heroic, I suggest Mr. Hurd paint LBJ crossing Lake Johnson at the wheel of his motor boat.

The author of two previous books, "On the Darkening Green" and "Once

Abe Mellinkoff

## HERB CAEN SAYS:

# A Voice Out of the Past Has a Message for Today

Cut, trim, squeeze: "The Governor stated that the government of California was not a charitable institution whose job was to distribute gratuities to the needy, or to assist the weak and unfortunate." He referred again to his concept of state government: to promote law and order and to protect the citizenry. In discussing California's proper role in charitable help, he claimed that only those who were completely powerless to help themselves were proper wards of the state, such as orphans and the mentally ill."

Gov. Reagan? No. Gov. William Irwin in 1877, quoted in "The Governors of California," by Melendy and Stewart. Herbert Eaton of Berkeley, who dredged up this remarkable statement, observes in passing: "There is, perhaps, some small comfort in the fact that the new Governor is living only 90 years in the past."

Add Infinites: Art Finley has an idea for a cartoon: a computer dragging itself across a desert, gasping "Oil! Oil!" (Well, you'd have to see it). . . . Tim Arnstein's peculiar worry ("Would San Francisco still be a glamorous name if it were the name of — say — Modesto?") inspired a pair of tart rejoinders, and no, a tart rejoinder has nothing to do with a streetwalker heckling a cop. "Since Modesto means 'modesty' in Spanish," sniffs Chas. Matthews, "the point is point-

less." And the Rev. J. Warner Sanders ripostes: "The only name that fits San Francisco would be Immodesto." You still believe this is Everybody's Favorite City? ☆ ☆ ☆

Action City: Marc Estrin, the talented director (of the old Actor's Workshop) who moved to the Pittsburgh Playhouse with John Hancock, is returning to S. F.

## San Francisco

next month — "to try to do something creative in a city that, for all its faults, is still alive and civilized."

Winifred Mann, the best actress in the group that went to Pittsburgh, has just about had it there, too. . . . State Finance Dir. Gordon Paul Smith bombed out in his premiere performance before the University of California Bd. of Regents. Reports a member: "I think we're a fairly sophisticated group, but he insisted on dotting every i, crossing every t and underlining every word." . . . Proving again that you can't win, a researcher reports that air pollution in congested areas (that's us) has an effect on your lungs equivalent to smoking two packs of cigarettes a day. Warning: Continuous breathing may be hazardous to your health. . . . Time mag reports that Shirley Temple Black, who was revolted by "Night Games," enjoys watching operations — "especially gall bladders, the colors

are gorgeous." Each to his own voyeurism.

Phil Harman, the former tennis pro who now lives in Oaxaca, Mexico, drove from Panama City on the Pacific to Colon City on the Atlantic in an unprecedented 42 minutes, thereby qualifying for the Guinness Book of Records. Another record of which he is even prouder: a few years ago, when he was the pro at the Ojai Valley Country Club, he beat me at tennis, using a whisky bottle (empty) as his racket. My only ally is the reason the bottle was empty.

☆☆☆

Conversation: The phone rang in Trader Vic Bergeron's office. On the other end was a lawyer in Washington who began: "I represent a group that would like to back you in a Trader Vic's restaurant in France. . . ." "Not a chance," cut in Vic. "When you kill that de Gaulle, I'd be interested." Silence. "I mean," amended Vic, "when you get RID of that guy." Lawyer: "I see. Well, my group would like to back you in Germany." Vic: "Forget it. When they get rid of those neo-Nazis, I might be interested." Lawyer: "Well, then, my group is also thinking about Italy." Vic: "Now that's a different story. I LIKE Italy. Put your proposal in writing and send it to me." Lawyer: "Will do. And by the way, I'm delighted and relieved to know that the Pope meets with your approval."

## ROYCE BRIER

# New Incident Shows Need To Limit Exile Activity

The men of the United States government do not like Fidel Castro. He is a tyrant and irresponsible. Nor do they like Francois Duvalier, dictator of Haiti. He is a brute and keeps his people in the mud and without hope.

But there lies between Florida and Cuba 90 miles of sea; and Haiti is across a narrow passage from the eastern tip of Cuba, 50 miles.

These 90 miles and up make a difference. The Cubans and Haitians came up through history the hard way. They have never known self-government. They have always been poor

and bedeviled by a small ruling caste.

It would perhaps be possible for the North Americans to open to these people the opportunity of self-government and a measure of well being, to the status, say, of Puerto Rico nearby. But it would not be historically prudent for us to try, as we must have learned in a century of

## World Affairs

frustrating effort in the same region.

All we can do within our principle is show our displeasure with whatever despot rules the Cubans and

Haitians — and we have to be careful about that, lest we hurt the peoples, who do not deserve added hurt.

Nor can we morally provide active aid for exiles from Cuba or Haiti who would start revolutions there. We must provide asylum for them, for it is in our tradition to succor the oppressed. They can then dream their revolutions, but overt acts are not in our interest.

Indeed, we are somewhat permissive with them. They plot perpetually, and we are surprised when they attempt to carry out their plots.

United States customs agents recently halted a filibuster operation to invade Haiti and overthrow Duvalier. The agents found an arsenal on an island off Key West, and the plotters loading a small boat. Seventy-six were jailed, a mixed group of Cubans and Haitians.

Their leader was one Masferrer, Batista's secret police chief in the pre-Castro days. He said they were going to take over Haiti, then mount an invasion of Cuba.

All this gets a little tiresome. At least 50 Cuban plots have been halted since the Bay of Pigs disaster almost six years ago. We participated in that one, President Kennedy's hand being forced by mindless zealots in his own government. It humiliated this nation.

One wouldn't know all the multifarious laws governing asylum for foreigners. Obviously they cannot assemble arsenals and start from our shores to put them to use. But they can conspire to do so without much interference.

The Congress should overhaul our laws governing the activities of exiles. They should be put under sharp surveillance, and not accorded the freedom of citizens. They should not be slapped on the wrists by federal courts when they commit overt acts.

The Congress can provide a remedy if it will. Only inertia has permitted this dangerous situation to exist since Fidel Castro came to power.

## WILLIAM HOGAN

# Survival System Key to Bronx Juvenile Jungle

The jungle: "The Man Who Grew Younger and Other Stories" contains an extraordinarily vivid novella and six shorter pieces by Jerome Charyn, a New Yorker who at present is a visiting writer and assistant professor at Stanford University.

The setting of all these tales is chiefly the East Bronx, New York, of the 1940s, presumably the period of Charyn's youth in that neighborhood. Especially in the novella, titled "1944," he has recorded the juvenile jungle aspects, the rough vocabulary and eccentric gutter culture of the district with what seems to be the highest fidelity.

The East Bronx is a predominantly Jewish neighborhood (or was at that time), although Italian and Negro youths do move in and around the showcase story here. It observes one Leo "Lippy" Lipkowitz, aged nine, and his younger brother, Benny, who basks in Lippy's local eminence as leader of a gang and Leo's intricate system of survival.

The story also deals with their much put-upon work-

ing mother; their impulsive Uncle Max, arbiter of family loyalties and behavior, who will bloody a nephew's nose to make his point; the young denizens of this culture of poverty a generation or more removed from the old lower East Side immigrant ghetto but none the less vivid, sad and humiliating.

Charyn injects rough rich humor, violence and tragedy

## Books

into brilliant individual scenes in all these stories. His "1944" seems to me the most successful here. "The Man Who Grew Younger" observes a poet, who writes in Yiddish, hoping for success in translation; "Sing, Shandeke, Sing" is about an Italian girl who sings Jewish songs in cheap theaters during vaudeville's dying days; "Imberman" focuses on the 200-page experimental literary work by a weightlifter; "Farewell . . . Farewell!" reflects a wartime experience which becomes a double tragedy in the Bronx.

The author of two previous books, "On the Darkening Green" and "Once

Upon a Drossky," Charyn works an interesting ethnic literary pasture of his own. His colleague, the Stanford novelist and critic Albert J. Guerard, is quoted as finding "1944" better than anything of J. D. Salinger's, which is generous praise indeed. The story is certainly a memorable and successful one, if less subtle than Salinger's Glass family tales, and it does suggest that this 29-year-old writer is a com-

## Notes on the Margin

For those who had the sales resistance to wait a year for the paperback: New American Library will introduce a Signet edition of Truman Capote's "In Cold Blood" on Jan. 24 (\$1.35). . . . The Washington correspondent Clark R. Mollenhoff is the author of an illuminating study of the structure and power of the Defense Department titled "The Pentagon," which Putnam's will publish Feb. 24 The veteran publisher's editor William Tark tells us "It is one of the most important books I have ever been involved with as an editor."